

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

CU-04 HEW-08 OPR-02 EUR-25 RSR-01 /135 W

----- 066936

R 151300 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2698

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0214

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, SCUL, SF

SUBJ: CONTINUING JOHANNESBURG REACTION TO NUSAS AND SASO
BANNINGS

REF: JOHANNESBURG 168

1. PROTEST MARCH PLANNED BY NEWLY- FORMED STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND CITIZENS' ACTION COMMITTEE FOR MARCH 14 BANNED BY JOHANNESBURG ACTING CHIEF MAGISTRATE MARCH 9. IN PLACE OF MARCH COMMITTEE ORGANIZED MARCH 14 MASS MEETING AT JOHANNESBURG CIVIC CENTER, WHICH APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL AND DID NOT REQUIRED PERMIT FROM CHIEF MAGISTRATE. SOME 3,000 PERSONS, INCLUDING PROMINENT BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN, SUPPORTED RESOLUTIONS ASKING FOR LIFTING OF BANNING ORDERS ON 16 NUSAS AND SASO - BPC LEADERS AND CALLING FOR REPEAL OF ALL LAWS WHICH CONSTITUTED A DENIAL OF RULE OF LAW. CALL ALSO MADE FOR FORMATION THROUGHOUT COUNTRY OF CITIZENS' ACTION GROUPS TO PRESS FOR RESTORATION OF RULE OF LAW.

2. EARLIER, ON MARCH 9, UNITED PARTY MP' S MARAIS STEYN AND LIONEL MURRAY WERE SUBJECTED TO SEARCHING EXAMINATION OF THIER
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ROLE IN BANNINGS AT A MEETING OF OVER 2,000 WITATERSRAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. TWO UP LEQDERS REPORTEDLY SHOWN UP BADLY IN EXCHANGE WITH STUDENT LEQDERS, LAW PROFESSOR JOHN DUGARD AND CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE DIRECTOR BEYERS NAUDE. OBVIOUSLY NOT USED TO BEING QUESTIONED BY JUNIORS, THEY WERE PATRONIZING IN THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS STUDENTS AND, UNABLE TO GIVE PERSUASIVE EXPLANATION OF THEIR SUBSCRIPTION TO PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION REPORT, THEY FELL BACK ON ARGUMENT THAT UNREVEALED EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO COMMISSION JUSTIFIED ACTION. FRUSTRATED STUDENTS RESPONED WITH SOME RUDE, BOORISH HECKLING AND ROWDY BEHAVIOR WHICH UNQUESTIONALBY COST THEM SOME PUPULAR SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT.

3. UNITED PARTY MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ALECK JAFFE CONFIRMED TO CONGEN UNHAPPINESS IN TRANSVAAL UP CIRCLES OVER PARTY' S ROLE IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION REPORT LEADING TO BANNING AND HANDLING OF AFFAIR BY PARTY LEADER BRAAFF. HE SAID THAT MARAIS STEYN HAD BEEN GIVEN ROUGH TIME IN CITY COUNCIL UP CAUCUS SESSION REPORTED REFTEL. FOLLOWING RETURN FROM EUROPE THIS WEEK OF TRANSVAAL U LEADER HARRY SCHWARZ, PLAN IS TO CALL STEYN TO ANOTHER MEETING WITH PROVINCAL COUNCIL UP MEMBERS. JAFFEE COMMENTED THAT AT BEST UP ROLE IN WHOLE AFFAIR MARKED BY STUPIDITY AND BLUDNDERING AND LOCAL UP PEOPLE ARE SUSPICIOUS THAT SOMETHING WORSE, NAMELY " COLLUSION" WITH NATIONALIST PARTY, MAY BE INVOLVED . TIMING OF AFFAIR, WHICH INEVITABLY REFLECTED ON GRAAFF' S LEADERSHIP, MOST UNFORTUNATE COMING ON HEELS OF OPEN CRITICISM BY SUNDAY TIMES AND OTHER ERSTWHILE UP- SUPPORTING PAPERS. DECONTROL FOLLOWING DECEMBER 31, 1973. LUTKINS

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